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with that. But the question is whether it is a question of Breach of Privilege of the House. I would like to tell the hon. Member, Mr. Viswanatham, that it is not a breach of Privilege of the House. If the House wants to go into the matter, there are other ways of doing it.

"I must also tell the House that when the Dalton case was before the House, the society consisting of the lobby reporters submitted a memorandum to the Enquiry Committee. It will be useful if I read this to the House because the Members of this House also should know all these things. I am reading it from the memorandum submitted by the journalists: 'It has always been the tradition among lobby journalists that anything which an hon. Member may ask to be off the record is regarded as strictly confidential and not for publication.' As I have already stated, if the House wants to enquire into the matter, there are other methods of doing so. It cannot be enquired into under a breach of Privilege Motion. The hon. Member has not made out a *prima facie* case and I rule the Motion out of order."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—"Arising out of your ruling, Sir, I move—

> '*That a Select Committee of the House be constituted (names to be submitted later) to enquire and report on the Budget leakage.*' "

MR. SPEAKER :—"For that the hon. Member must go to the Hon. the Chief Minister and take his permission, as Mr. Churchill did in England. If he agrees that it could be taken up on an official day, the hon. Member may then come to me."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—"Am I to take it that unless the Chief Minister agrees, it cannot be moved?"

MR. SPEAKER :—"The hon. Member must know the difference between official business and non-official business."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—"I know it very well, Sir. If the Chief Minister consented . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—"I am not going to allow a debate on this. It is better discussed with the Chief Minister in his room or somewhere in the Secretariat. I have already given my ruling. Let us now proceed with the next item on the Agenda, namely, Interpellations."

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Non-officials on the Regional Transport Committees.

* 11 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister in his Press Conference on 16th May said that the Government have decided

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to eliminate the non-official element from Regional Transport Authorities and whether it represents the policy of the Government; and

(b) the reason for the elimination?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) This has been done in order to remove all possibilities of political and other extraneous influences in the administration of public transport."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" When did the Government make the discovery that non-officials are not fit to control and manage these affairs? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am afraid I am not responsible for the conclusions drawn by the hon. Member, but I can tell this House that when I was looking through the debates of the previous Legislative Assembly, I found the view expressed there, that it would be advisable to remove as far as possible non-officials from the constitution of Transport Authorities. That seemed to agree with the views of the present Government who felt that the presence of the President of the District Board was sufficient, as he was eminently fitted to represent public opinion."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" In his reply the Hon. Minister referred to extraneous influences. May I know what are these extraneous influences that had worked previously? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I have nothing more to add to what I have already said."

SRI K. V. RAMESAM :—" Sir, with reference to the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I ask whether the Government are prepared to reorganize the Transport Authorities in view of the unsatisfactory nature of the administration, particularly in the matter of the issue of permits to bus owners? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I can tell the hon. Member that at present the Regional Transport Authorities consist of the Collector of the district, the District Superintendent of Police and the President of the District Board."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" The Hon. Minister has stated that from the debates in the previous Assembly he found it would be advisable to remove the District Board President. May I know wherefrom he gathered the information that the District Board President was not a non-official? Is he aware that a District Board President is not merely a non-official but a very ' political ' non-official? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I think the Leader of the Opposition has read too much between the lines. I only said that in the previous Assembly there was enough discussion to warrant the conclusion that the House was in favour of reducing the non-official element as much as possible. I

only reiterated the fact that this Government think that the President of the District Board is sufficiently eminent to represent public opinion."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have got any proposal before them to eliminate the District Board President also from these Transport Authorities?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" We have no such proposal. But, if the hon. Member would suggest it, the Government will certainly consider the proposal."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI:—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister inform this House how exactly the non-official element had been functioning to justify the conclusion that its influence was deleterious to the proper functioning of the Transport Authorities?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" I have nothing more to add to what I have already stated."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—" Sir, is it the view of the Government that 'non-official' means 'non-Congress'?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" I am afraid the hon. Member has drawn his own conclusions."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know, Sir, what are the reasons that made the Government think of removing the non-official President of the District Board from the Transport Authority?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is putting the question in a different manner."

Representations regarding the grievances of the Non-Gazetted Officers

* 12 Q.—SRI S. RAMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Non-Gazetted Officers' Wives' Association, Tanjore, regarding the grievances of the Non-Gazetted Officers; and

(b) if so, what action the Government propose to take thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" (a) & (b) Yes, Sir, certain resolutions have been received and the requests are being examined by the Government."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM:—" May I know the nature of the requests?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" Wives want husbands' emoluments to be increased."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, how long the Government will take to consider this memorandum?"